

## **LIST OF ATTORNEYS**

### **In the Consular District of Colombo**

**(Updated on July 01, 2008)**

The Consular District of Colombo is comprised of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) and the Republic of Maldives. In providing this listing the American Embassy at Colombo assumes no responsibility for the professional ability or integrity of the persons or firms whose names appear in the list given below. The firms listed are arranged alphabetically and the order in which they appear has no other significance. Free legal aid is also available.

In compiling this list the Embassy has accepted recommendations, as well as seeking out attorneys through direct contact, and the names are subsequently referred to the Sri Lankan Bar Association to see if they are in good standing. If so, the names are included in the list without further research.

Although the Embassy has used care in compiling this list, we cannot guarantee or otherwise assume responsibility for the professional competence or integrity of the persons or individuals whose names are listed. In this connection, the Embassy would appreciate receiving your comments, favorable, as well as unfavorable concerning the performance of the attorney that you choose. Such comments will assist the Embassy in the annual review of the list and your fellow American citizens as well. We also wish to point out that many reputable lawyers have chosen not to be included on this list; consequently, no negative connotation can be drawn from the absence of a name from the list. If you have chosen a Sri Lankan attorney whose name is not on the list, the Embassy will upon request, verify that he is licensed by the Sri Lankan Bar Association, and that no substantiated complaints have been registered about him with the Embassy by former clients. The Embassy is precluded by the Privacy Act from releasing such information which pertains to attorneys who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States.

**DE SARAM; F. J. & G.**

Attorneys at Law. Commenced 1841.

Head Office Address: No. 216, De Saram Road, Colombo 10, Sri Lanka.

Telephone No : +94-11-471-8200, +94-11-267-7864

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E-mail : [fjgdesaram@fjgdesaram.com](mailto:fjgdesaram@fjgdesaram.com)

Geographic Area of

Practice : All Island

**Areas of Legal Practice:**

All areas of Commercial Law including Corporate, Banking, Intellectual Property, Investments, Joint Ventures, Telecommunications and IT, Securities and Capital Markets, Tax, Insurance, Infrastructure Projects, Mergers and Acquisitions, Project Finance, Securitization, Shipping and Aviation, Real Estate, Employment and Litigation-Arbitration.

**General Information:**

Founded by F.J. de Saram (Snr.) on 13th May 1841, F. J. & G. de Saram is the oldest and one of the largest law firms in Sri Lanka. As a leading commercial law firm in Sri Lanka, it has the distinction of being ranked by international legal directories in the top tier across all practice areas.

Whilst Senior Partner, U. L. Kadurugamuwa along with 11 other Partners, 3 Counsel and over 35 lawyers and legal assistants, work in their specialized divisions, their knowledge and expertise are drawn upon by other divisions as and when necessary, to enable the Firm to provide an integrated and responsive service to meet the specific needs of its clients.

As the exclusive member for Sri Lanka of Lex Mundi, the world's leading association of independent law firms, the Firm has access to over 100 member firms covering virtually every business market worldwide. Several partners of the Firm are members of the International Bar Association (IBA), Institution of Trade Mark Attorneys (ITMA) and Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA). The Firm is a member of the International Trade Marks Association (INTA).

Many leading business houses in Sri Lanka, banks, both local and international, the majority of transnational corporations engaged in business in Sri Lanka, Fortune 500 companies and multilateral agencies are clients of the Firm.

American clients of the Firm include American Home Products, American Insurance Group (AIG), GTECH Corporation, Caterpillar, Cessna, Citigroup, Dell, ExxonMobil, GAP Inc, Hewlett Packard, Hilton, IBM, Intel, JC Penny, JP Morgan Chase, MacDonald's, Macy's, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, Nike, Sears, Walt Disney and 3M.

Many leading international law firms refer their work in Sri Lanka to the Firm.

**DE SILVA & MENDIS**

Address : 18, 2/1 Sir Baron Jayatilleke Mawatha, State Bank of India Building  
(2nd Floor), Colombo -01, Sri Lanka.

Tel : +94-11-232-7024.

Geographic Area of

Practice : Does not handle any cases outside of the city of Colombo.

**Areas of Legal Practice:**

Does not handle criminal cases. Contracts, agreements, real estate, conveyancing, purchase/sale, rent lease, Mortgage of immovable property and Condominium Units in Sri Lanka, certifying and attesting legal documents, preparing and attesting powers of attorney.

**General Information** :

Senior Partner: Shelton Ernest Abeysuriya.

**D.S. WIJESINGHE**

President's Counsel

Address : 115, Havelock Road, Colombo 5  
Tel : +94-11-258-4624, +94-11-533-3418  
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e-Mail : [ssrwijesinghe@yahoo.co.in](mailto:ssrwijesinghe@yahoo.co.in)

Geographic Area of  
Practice : Colombo

Areas of Legal Practice:

Criminal Appeals- Administrative Law & Constitutional Law- Extradition- Investment Law

General Information:

I am a Senior President's Counsel practising in the Appellate Courts in Colombo and counts over 40 years practice. I have appeared in almost all the cases of public importance in my areas of practice and am considered one of the leading practitioners' in these areas of law.

**GAMINI PERERA, MBASL; MIPBA; MABA**

Attorney- at Law, Notary Public, Commissioner for Oaths and Company Secretary

Senior Counsel called to the Bar in 1993 and a Senior Legal Consultant in Sri Lanka. The law chamber is assisted by Junior Counsels, Instructing Attorneys and experts in various Professional areas.

Life Member	- Bar Association of Sri Lanka	- <b>(BASL)</b>
Life Member	- Colombo Law Society	- <b>(CLS)</b>
Member	- Inter - Pacific Bar Association	- <b>(IPBA)</b>
Member	- American Bar Association	- <b>(ABA)</b>

Colombo City Chambers: 34 –1 / 7,  
Lawyers' Office Complex,  
St; Sebastian Hill,  
Colombo 12, Sri Lanka.

Outer City Chambers: No.302/5,  
Dr C.V.S.Corea Mawatha  
Thalawathugoda Road  
Hokandara, Sri Lanka

E mail : [aalkugeperera@yahoo.com](mailto:aalkugeperera@yahoo.com)

*Telephone Numbers* : 011-2562266 / 011-5670889

*Hot Number* : 0773-255161

Geographical Area of Practicing : All Island

Professional Area of Practicing:

Documentation of, Local and International Trade Contract; Marketing Contracts, Agreements, MOU. BOI and other Project Proposal and approval, Company Formation, Trade Mark

Representation for clearance from various Government and Provincial Government

Organization such as:

Airport and Aviation Authority, Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, Central Environmental Authority, Ministry of Internal Security and Law and Order, Ministry of Finance, Urban Development Authority, relevant Local Government Bodies, Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Social Services and Welfare, Ministry of Tourism. Etc.

Civil matters.

All litigation matters including Adoption, Child custody, Civil Damages, Injunction orders, Marriage/ Maintenance / Divorce, Foreign/Local Investments, Auto Accident, Estates, Debt/Money recoveries and others on request

Handle all criminal matters including Representation to Attorney General's Department, Criminal Investigation Department, Department of Customs, Fraud Bureau, and Immigration & Emigration Department, Police and Prison Dept. and others on request

Human Rights (Fundamental Rights)

Labour Relations

Representations before Labour Tribunal, Industrial Court, Commissioner of Labour, and Employment Trust Fund and Employment Provident Fund

Immigration Consultant

## **JOHN WILSON PARTNERS**

Attorneys-at-Law & Notaries Public, Industrial Design, Patent and Trademark Attorneys,  
Domain Name Registration Agents, Foreign Investment Consultants

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Email : [john@srilankalaw.com](mailto:john@srilankalaw.com); [trademarks@srilankalaw.com](mailto:trademarks@srilankalaw.com);  
[patents@srilankalaw.com](mailto:patents@srilankalaw.com);

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Web : <http://www.srilankalaw.com>

Geographic Area of

Practice : The firm undertakes cases both in Colombo and the outstation.

Areas of Legal Practice:

Admiralty and shipping matters; administrative law and writ matters; adoptions; agency, distribution, franchise and representation agreements; banking and finance; capital markets; civil litigation, dispute resolution, arbitration and debt recoveries; company law and practice and company secretarial services; competition and trade; construction law; conveyancing, notarial work and real estate; corporate and commercial law; branch and liaison offices; family law including divorces and matrimonial matters, custody matters, trusts and international child abduction (Hague Convention) matters; general counsel and advice; foreign investment and Board of Investment of Sri Lanka matters; immigration matters, residence and work visas and permits; intellectual property (industrial property - trademarks, patents, industrial designs and copyright); ICT (information communication technology), broadcasting and legal aspects of e-commerce; joint ventures; labor law and industrial disputes; legal consultancy, legal opinions and due diligence reports; personal injury claims; powers of attorney; private client work; privatization; probate and trust; project finance; regulatory affairs and matters including proceedings and applications to all government bodies, authorities and ministries including the Department of Inland Revenue, Department of Excise, Department of Immigration and Emigration and Sri Lanka Customs; service of process and court documentation; sworn translation services; taxation.

General Information : Founded in 1920 by the late Senator John Wilson, JOHN WILSON PARTNERS is an established legal practice in Sri Lanka, providing service in the areas of intellectual property, civil litigation, commercial law and notarial practice to corporations,

companies, financial institutions and individuals, both Sri Lankan and foreign. The Managing Proprietor is John Wilson assisted by a team of Professional Assistants, para legals and clerical staff. JOHN WILSON PARTNERS has represented Tyco Corporation, Nike Inc and acts for Dole Asia Inc. Memberships and Affiliations include INTA (the International Trademark Association), APAA (Asian Patent Attorneys Association); AIPPI (the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property); AIJA (International Association of Young Lawyers), LES (Licensing Executives Society); FICPI (International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys, PTMG (Pharmaceutical Trade Marks Group) IPBA (the Inter Pacific Bar Association), IBA (the International Bar Association); MSI ALLIANCE, a worldwide multidisciplinary association of independent professional firms and the International Chamber of Commerce's COUNTERFORCE network of law firms specializing in intellectual property and anti-counterfeiting work.

The firm has handled numerous American owned trademarks including NIKE, SUBWAY, GRAMMY, LARAS, MAG and MAG-LITE, THE PRINCETON REVIEW and CROCS.

**JULIUS & CREASY, Attorneys-at-Law & Notaries Public**  
**(Estd. 1879)**

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Website : [www.juliusandcreasy.com](http://www.juliusandcreasy.com)

Julius & Creasy, established in 1879 by two British Solicitors, is one of the oldest and largest law firms in Sri Lanka and is involved in every facet of civil law practice.

The Firm enjoys the largest Intellectual Property practice in the country with many multinationals conducting their patent, industrial design and trademark activities through the Firm.

In the areas of Corporate and Commercial Law, the Firm provides legal services in all company related matters including, Taxation, Insurance, Banking, Restructuring, Mergers and Acquisitions, Due Diligence, Derivatives Transactions, Listing and De-listing, Securities, Anti-Money Laundering, Securitization, Aircraft Leasing, Telecommunications, IT and Infrastructure Projects.

The Firm's areas of legal practice also include Constitutional and Administrative law, Maritime and Shipping law, Conveyancing and real estate transactions, Industrial Law, Dispute Resolution, Probate and Litigation.

The Firm has an excellent reputation for providing sound advice and devising innovative solutions to legal and commercial issues within a changing legal and business environment to both local and international clients, and has a wealth of experience in dealing with major international assignments. With its strong reputation in the international legal community the Firm maintains close working relationships with many prestigious international law firms such

as Clifford Chance, Allen & Overy, Baker & McKenzie, Norton Rose, Linklaters, Denton Wilde-Sapte and Freshfields.

Whilst Julius & Creasy has 17 Partners – namely: J.M Swaminathan, R. Senathi Rajah, S. A. Cader, Ms. A.I. Wanigasekera, T.G. Gooneratne, Ms. J. Kumaraguru, Ms. M.D.L. Karunaratne, Ms. A.M. Fernando, Ms. A.K. Gunawardhana, Ms. M.R.P Balendra, Ms. M.T.C. Fernando, M.J.B. Adihetty, Ms. S. David, J.L.M. Abeysekera, Ms. N.C. Ediriweera, Ms. P Sivagananathan & Ms.S.M.A. Nonis, several of the Firm's Partners and Associates are members of the Bar of England & Wales and New York.

**K.KANAG-ISVARAN**

President's Counsel, LL.B (Lond) , of Linclon's Inn, Barrister, Advocate, Supreme Court of Sri Lanka.

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Geographic Area of Practice : Colombo. Original and Appellate Courts.

Area of Legal Practice :  
Corporate Law, Intellectual Property, Banking, Shipping and Maritime Law

General Information :  
Called to the English Bar in June 1964. Called to the Sri Lanka Bar in July 1966.  
Commssioner, Law Commission of Sri Lanka. Chairman, Advisory Commission on Company Law, Visiting Lecturer, Law Faculty, University of Colombo and Ceylon Law College.

Clients include, The Central Bank of Sri Lanka, The Monetary Board, Blue Chip Companies of Sri Lanka, Commercial Banks etc.,  
Foreign clients include, Viacom, G-Tech, Taisei Corporation, Prudential Assurance, Oberoi hotels, Apollo Hospitals, Shipping Firms. Lipton , Unilever, Colgate and several others.

**MATHER & RAMANATHAN:**

MATHER & RAMANATHAN

Attorneys-at-Law & Notaries Public

Address : # 136, Hulftsdorp Street, Colombo – 12, Sri – Lanka.

Tel : +94-112-590562, +94-112-599041

Email : sd\_yogendra@yahoo.com

Geographical Areas

of Practice : Colombo and outstation

Areas of Legal Practice:

Adoptions, child custody, civil damages, estates, government relations, marriage/divorce, taxes, aeronautical/maritime, banking/financial, collections, contracts, corporations, foreign investment, insurance, investment in raw materials, labor relations, marketing agreements, mining/petroleum, patents/trademarks/copyrights, auto accidents, immigration, narcotics, theft/fraud/embezzlement/.Provides the services of a certified translator, court reporter/stenographer or notary. Handles criminal cases.

All areas of Commercial Law including Banking, Intellectual Property, Investments, Joint Ventures, Telecommunications and IT, Securities/ Tax/ Insurance, Infrastructure Projects, Mergers and Acquisitions, Project Finance, Real Estate, Litigation-Arbitration, Corporate and Employment.

Criminal Appeals – Administrative Law & Constitutional Law Extradition – Investment Law. Admiralty and shipping matters, dispute resolution, arbitration and debt recoveries, company Law and practice and company secretarial services.

General Information :

Founded nearly 75 years back, Mather & Ramanathan is one of the oldest Law Firms in Sri Lanka.

Proprietor Storer.D.Yogendra.

Represents U.S Law Firms / companies, arbitrations.

## **SA'ADI WADOOD**

LLM (London), Attorney -at- Law

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Geographical Area  
of practice : Colombo & Outstations (All Island)

Area of Practice :  
(Areas of Law) General Civil/ Commercial Practice- Commercial & Corporate Law,  
International Business Transactions / International Trade Law, Intellectual Property Law,  
Trade Marks Law, Family Law, Telecommunications Law, Criminal Aspects of Intellectual  
Property Law (Pirating etc..), Migration, Law of Banking, Land Law, Property Law, Human  
Rights/Fundamental Rights, Public Law, Adoption.

(Areas of Practice) Litigation, Arbitration, Advisory / Opinions, Consultancy, Settling  
Commercial Agreements, Taking Part in Commercial Mediation / Corporate Negotiation,  
Obtaining Approvals , Clearances / Registrations from Government Organizations, Ministries,  
Public Bodies, including Board of Investment (BOI), Registrar of Companies, Director General  
Intellectual Property, Customs.

General Information :  
Serves as Legal Consultant/Counsel/Represntaive to numerous US organizations including  
INGO's. Advises on legal compliance

**NEVILLE ABEYRATNE**

Attorney-at-Law,

Address : No: 137, Nagahawatte Road, Dalugama, Kelaniya, Sri Lanka.

Tel : +94-11-291-2566, +94-11-291-7632, +94-777-313-516

Fax : +94-11-2917446

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Geographic Area of

Practice : Colombo and outstations

Areas of Legal Practice:

Criminal and Civil matters, Immigration matters, handles adoptions, child custody, marriage and divorce, Criminal prosecution in Intellectual Property Law, Motor accident cases, Fraud, theft and similar criminal offences, title clearance in purchase of property and Arbitration matters.

General Information : Counsel in active practice since 1984 and legal consultant to many leading Companies and local government Authorities. The law chamber is assisted by Junior counsels in active practice

## **PAUL RATNAYAKE ASSOCIATES**

Attorneys at Law, Solicitors & Notaries Public

Address : No 59, Gregory's Road,  
Colombo 7

Telephone : +94 11 2697893 (General)

Email : [info@prlaw.lk](mailto:info@prlaw.lk)  
[paul@prlaw.lk](mailto:paul@prlaw.lk)

Geographic area of

Practice : Colombo and outstations

Area of Legal Practice:

Corporate and commercial law including mergers and acquisitions, corporate restructuring and joint ventures, Aviation, Shipping, Insurance, Foreign investment, General corporate representation, employment, dispute resolution, arbitration, litigation, conveyancing

General Information : Number of partners -6

Senior Partner – Paul Ratnayeke

Specialising in corporate and commercial areas of law including mergers and acquisitions, maritime, aviation and insurance law.

### Partners

Punyakanthi Navaratne – Administration and Foreign Investments

Lakshman Wijyatilake - Conveyancing

Nilanthie Pieris - Litigation/Arbitration

Dinusha Mirihana - Employment/ Litigation

Dharshie Lokuge - Corporate and commercial

**S.S. SAHABANDU**

President's Counsel

Address : No. 19, Charlmont Place, Wellawatte, Colombo - 06

Tel : +94-11-258-2741

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Geographic Area of

Practice : Colombo and Out Stations

Areas of Legal Practice:

Criminal and Civil matters, arbitration (local and international), extradition, human rights (fundamental rights), labor relations, writ petition in the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court, representations for clearance from Government institutions and provincial government institutions, BOI projects and auto accidents.

General Information :

Representations to Government institutions, Cabinet Ministers, Attorney General's Department, Criminal Investigations Department, Debt Recovery, International Law.

## **SUDATH PERERA ASSOCIATES**

International Legal Consultants, Solicitors, Attorneys-at-Law and Notaries Public, Brand Protection and Anti-counterfeiting Consultants

### **SPA Corporate Services (Private) Limited**

Corporate Secretaries

SPA Global IP Solutions (Private) Limited Intellectual Property Consultants, Trade Marks and Patent Agents

Address : 51, Kassapa Road, Colombo 5, Sri-Lanka

Tel : +94-11-2559944-7, +94-11-2559949, +94-77-735-3989

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### **LegalBase**

LegalBase is a legal outsourcing firm (LPO) providing a range of global outsourcing solutions to both law firms and corporations in the U.S.A., Europe and other jurisdictions. LegalBase's services are centered around the following core areas of practice: Corporate & Commercial Law, Corporate Services, Litigation & Document Review, Banking & Finance, Legal Research and Legal Intelligence & Marketing.

Contact Sudath Perera (Director) at [sudath.perera@lboutsourcing.com](mailto:sudath.perera@lboutsourcing.com) or Ali Tyebkhan (Director) at [ali.tyebkhan@lboutsourcing.com](mailto:ali.tyebkhan@lboutsourcing.com).

Geographic area of Practice:

Colombo and all the other jurisdictions of Sri-Lanka

(Commercial High Courts, High Courts, District Courts, Magistrate Courts, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court, Labor Tribunals, Arbitration Tribunals and Admiralty Courts)

Areas of Legal Practice:

Commercial Law, Arbitration and Dispute Resolution, Finance and Banking Law, IT Law, Telecommunication Law, Aviation and Shipping Law, Intellectual Property Law, Brand Protection and Anti-Counterfeiting, Industrial Law, Real Estate and Conveyance, Foreign Investment, Family Law, Civil, Corporate and Criminal Litigation

General Information:

Firm was established in July 2002, and is headed by Sudath Perera, an Attorney since 1991.

The firm is known for its energetic and enterprising legal practice, and superior, personalized customer service, and is today a forerunner in the legal field. The firm has an impressive client base- consisting of local companies, multi-nationals (Fonterra, Shell, Coats, Mitsubishi, Toyota) as well as many foreign firms. Whilst the firm excels in all areas of operation, the growing strength of the firm in recent times has been Intellectual Property, Brand Protection, Anti-counterfeiting and Anti-Piracy practice, with clients including Nike, Polo by Ralph Lauren, Victoria Secret, Colombia Sportswear Co., LVMH Group, Lacoste, Air Liquid, Business Software Alliance - [www.bsa.org](http://www.bsa.org) and Microsoft Corporation.

**UPALI A. GOONERATNE**

Attorney-at-Law/Advocate (Sri Lanka),  
Barrister and Solicitor (Victoria, NSW & Tasmania),  
Solicitor (England and Wales)

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Email : [upaliag@yahoo.com](mailto:upaliag@yahoo.com)  
[upalig@sltnet.lk](mailto:upalig@sltnet.lk)

Geographic Area of Practice: Colombo & most outstations

Areas of Legal Practice:

General with specialisation in Criminal, Immigration, Extradition, Labour etc

General Information:

(Re: Self) In active practice since 1972: Formerly Secretary-General, Asian Legal Research Institute, Japan, Deputy Secretary-General International Bar Association, Executive Council Member LAWASIA (Law Association for Asia and Pacific), Secretary, Vice President and President, Bar Association of Sri Lanka.

International Trial Observer, including at the trial of Anwar Ibrahim (ex-Deputy PM) in Malaysia.

Formerly, Lecturer & Examiner, now Hony. Chairman, Board of Examiners, and Member, Board of Studies, Sri Lanka Law College.

(Re: Professional Practice) Clientele handled includes, foreign Embassies in Sri Lanka, their citizens and businesses, the State institutions, Professional bodies, Multinational enterprises, individuals etc.